MR. R. M. STATHAM (*Director of Public Instruction*):

Total number of members 25.

Brahmins	...	4
Nairs	...	7
Christians	...	7
Europeans	...	2
Anglo-Indian	...	1
Ezhava	...	1
Vellala	...	1
Mudaliar	...	1
Kshatriya	...	1

MR. N. ABDUR RAHIMAN SAHIB (*Nominated*): May I know why all the communities are not represented in the Text-Book Committee?

MR. R. M. STATHAM (*Director of Public Instruction*): That question has already been answered several times in the course of this session.

Conversion of Putherikandam into a garden.

341. *MR. N. ABDUR RAHIMAN SAHIB (*Nominated*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether there is a proposal to convert the Putherikandam fields into a garden:

(*b*) when this idea originated and

(*c*) whether the Trivandrum Municipality had addressed the Government urging the need and desirability of converting these fields into a park?

MR. G. B. E. TRUSCOTT (*Chief Engineer*):

(*a*) Yes.

(*b*) In 1928.

(*c*) Yes.

MR. N. ABDUR RAHIMAN SAHIB (*Nominated*): May I know whether any action has been taken?

MR. G. B. E. TRUSCOTT (*Chief Engineer*): Yes.

Selection of Muslim candidates for the Engineering College Madras.

342. *MR. N. ABDUR RAHIMAN SAHIB (*Nominated*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) how many Muslims have applied this year (1109) for selection to the Madras Engineering College and

(*b*) how many were admitted?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*):

(*a*) 20th May 1934 has been fixed as the final date for sending applications for selection to the Madras Engineering College and the selection of candidates will be made only hereafter.

(*b*) This does not arise in view of the answer to (*a*).

Tank on the north of Navaikulam Temple.

343. *MR. S. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Chirayinkil II*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

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[Mr. S. Nilakanta Pillai]

(*a*) whether they have received any representation regarding the improvement and repair of the tank on the north of Navaikulam Temple;

(*b*) if so, when such representation was made; and

(*c*) whether it is a tank attached to the Navaikulam Temple or a Sirkar tank?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*):

(*a*) No.

(*b*) In view of the answer to part (*a*), this does not arise.

(*c*) Sirkar tank.

Venkulam Railway Station.

344. ***MR. S. NILAKANTA PILLAI** (*Chirayinkil II*): With reference to Venkulam Railway Station, will the Government be pleased to state the amount of expenditure they will have to incur in constructing a station building?

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Ag. Secretary to Government*): No estimate for the work has been received from the Company. The site for locating the station is under correspondence.

The New Legislative Chamber.

345. ***MR. EDAVANATT S. PADMANABHA MENON** (*Shertala I*): Will the Government be pleased to state when they hope to have the New Legislative Buildings completed and ready for use?

MR. G. B. E. TRUSCOTT (*Chief Engineer*): Detailed design and estimate for the work have not been prepared and it is too early to say when the work will be completed.

Appointment of Assistant and Sub-Assistant Surgeons.

346. ***MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN** (*Mavelikara*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) the general rule that is observed in the selection of candidates for appointment as Assistant Surgeons and Sub-Assistant Surgeons; and

(*b*) whether it is a fact that it is the priority of applications and not the respective merits of the applicants that is the guiding factor in the making of such appointments?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): (*a*) Priority of application and the qualifications possessed by the applicants. The claims of communities which are not adequately represented in public service are also taken into consideration consistent with the above principles.

(*b*) In view of the answer to part (*a*), this does not arise.

MR. K. R. ELENKATH (*Kalkulam I*): May I know whether there is any circular that M. B. B. S. Degree holders should be preferred to L. M. S. Degree holders?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): If the member means a circular by Government, I am not aware of it.

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